The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor organizing in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Samuel Gompers said:

Nonunionists who reap the rewards of union effort, without contributing a dollar or risking a loss of a day, are parasites. They are reaping a benefit from the union spirit, while they themselves are debasing genuine manhood.

WHOLE NO. 2034 — WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* — VOL. 40, NO. 14

AFL Favors Wage Rise in Europe In Anti-Red Fight

Washington.—AFL President William Green said the AFL is "in complete sympathy with the struggles of workers in western Europe for higher wages" in the bitter contest to prevent Communists from tacking their political aims to this worthwhile economic objective.

Mr. Green issued a statement following a meeting of the AFL International Relations Committee.

"We support the workers of Europe in both their struggles for higher living standards and in their battle against the Communists," Mr. Green said. He said the Communists have tried to link their "political objectives" to "legitimate trade union demands."

Following are excerpts from Mr. Green's statement:

Since the end of World War II the Communists have tried to create the conditions that will pave the way for their form of totalitarianism. Having failed to wreck the Marshall Plan they are now engaged in a desperate drive to sabotage the military defenses of countries menaced by Soviet imperialism.

The current so-called "peace offensive" of the Cominform and its subsidiary fronts, particularly the World Federation of Trade Unions and the "Partisans of Peace," is accompanied by hypocritical diplomatic maneuvers calculated to encourage the Illusion that Kremlin leaders desire peaceful settlement of disputes with the United States and other nations. This campaign, seeks to capitalize on the spreading belief that the cold war will become hot. The fact is that Soviet dictatorship has long been engaging on the cold war and shooting war simultaneously. In Greece, fortunately, the Communists have suffered defeat. But they have conquered China, and are waging armed civil wars in Indo-China and other countries of southeast Asia as well as in Korea.

The Cominform is demanding the withdrawal of French troops from Indo-China, British troops from Malaya and Burma, Dutch troops from Indonesia, and American troops from South Korea and Japan, leaving the countries weak and vulnerable. The American labor movement opposes colonial imperialism and upholds the right of these and all countries to independence. But to withdraw troops now would mean conquest by Soviet imperialism which is far worse than any other form known in history. It would not mean peace and independence but war and subjection.

It is obvious that it is the calculated intention of the Cominform to soften up these Asiatic countries, as well as western Europe, for eventual absorption into the Soviet sphere. That is the goal of the current effort of the WFTU to engineer political strikes and demonstrations, with Franco and Italy as the concentration points.

Through their trade unions, American workers have assured their brothers of western Europe that we will manufacture and transport military supplies to the 8 countries which have asked for them. We are convinced that this military aid program is an essential part of the Atlantic Pact and of the whole program for the recovery of western Europe; that it is a practical demonstration of cooperation and solidarity among free peoples which is a prerequisite to peace, of the mutual aid necessary to preserve our democracy and liberty.

According to reports reaching us the Cominform has not met with much success in the initial stages of its "peace offensive." We refer to the splendid action of the longshoremen's union in Marseilles in Paris which voted to ignore the appeal of the Communist union to join in the political objectives of the WFTU. The Communists have sought to link these objectives with legitimate trade union demands.

American trade unionists are in complete accord with the struggles of workers in western Europe for higher wages. We believe that recovery due to Marshall Plan aid has been sufficient to benefit their economic demands. Here again, we wish to extend the hand of fraternal solidarity across the ocean. We support the workers of Europe in their struggles for higher living standards and in their battle against the Communists. We do not seek in any way to interfere in their affairs.

We desire only to give renewed assurance of sympathy and support. Our goals and theirs are identical—the protection of the rights and progress toward universal prosperity, and the preservation of peace. As the Manifesto of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions says, our mutual objectives, they are: Peace —security and social progress for all. Freedom—through economic and political democracy. Peace —with liberty. Justice and dignity for all.

In the defense and extension of these common aims, the organized American workers stand solidly behind the free workers of Europe. We will make sure that they get the weapons with which to preserve their freedom.

NEBRLY BACKS PROGRAM

Washington. — Senator Matthew Neely, chairman of the Senate District committee, announced his support of a legislative program advocated by the Washington AFL Central Labor Union which includes creation of a District labor department; a law requiring wages be paid in cash on regular paydays; modernization of child labor laws; new standards governing private employment insurance benefits.

Oldenbroek and AFL Officials

Washington.—J. H. Oldenbroek (center), secretary-general International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, smiles with AFL officials during luncheon in his honor on his first official visit to United States. L. to r., AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany; AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, chairman of the International Relations Committee; Mr. Oldenbroek, AFL International Representative Serafino F. Delaney, and President William Mcburley of the AFL Lathers Union.

AFL Council Disowns Trade Union Courier

Washington.—AFL President William Green has advised all Central Labor Unions and State Federations of Labor that the "Trade Union Courier" published in connection with the AFL has recommended that they "withhold and discontinue giving aid or assistance to this publication."

Following is the text of the letter authorized by the AFL Executive Council:

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, at a meeting which it held recently, gave consideration to reports which had been submitted to it which showed that the Trade Union Courier, a publication which classifies itself as a labor newspaper, had engaged in unethical and misrepresentative practices in the solicitation of advertisements.

This fact is reflected in a communication received from the president of a state federation of labor which is in a large way similar to other communications which have been received, which contained the following statement:

"Mr. H. I. Kaye, 3 West 17th Street, New York City, has been making long distance calls into the state to firms employing large groups of organized labor. Mr. Kaye informs these industrialists that his Trade Union Courier has the official approval of the American Federation of Labor, and that the Courier is doing all of its efforts to bring about better relations along the conciliatory approach, and that he stands to succeed if he can get the support of the industrial group.

"This morning he asked one industrialist for a donation of $2,500.00. Many similar calls have come into this state."

After giving this information and all facts in support of it careful thought and consideration, the Executive Council directed that the official communication be sent to central bodies and state federations of labor, advising them as follows:

1. The Trade Union Courier is not in any way connected with the American Federation of Labor and does not speak for the American Federation of Labor.

2. No endorsement of any kind has been given by the American Federation of Labor or any of its representatives, to the Trade Union Courier.

3. The Executive Council believes that it is not helpful to the American Federation of Labor and for that reason the Executive Council requests that our affiliated unions withhold and discontinue giving aid or assistance to this publication.

I respectfully request that the officers and members of city central bodies and state federations of labor will be guided by the advice and instructions herein submitted, and will give as wide publicity as possible to the information, advice and instructions herein set forth.

Cuban Leader Chats With AFL Officials

Washington.—Francisco Aguirre (center), member of the Cuban parliament, officially representing Cuban labor, confers with Serafino Romualdi (left), representative of the Inter-American Confederation of Workers, chats with Serafino Romualdi (left), representative of the Inter-American Confederation of Workers, chats with Serafino Romualdi (left), representative for Latin America, and AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany (right) at luncheon for J. H. Oldenbroek, secretary-general of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

AFL Asks Voice In Latin America Point 4 Program

Washington.—AFL President William Green reminded the State Department that Congress provided for participation by labor's representatives on the committee in charge of technical assistance for America.

Mr. Green wrote:

The committee also referred to provides for the creation of a Coordinating Committee for Technical Assistance (CCTA) under the chairmanship of the cooperating Assistant Secretary of State of American States and composed of a representative of the Inter-American Union and of the heads of the cooperating American republics, specialized agencies or their representatives.

"We are in accord with the composition of the Coordinating Committee and of the classification of duties assigned to it. We are particularly glad in regard as in keeping with the Statement of Principles and the activities of the program itself.

I regret to note, however, in the stated plan and purpose of the resolution the apparent omission of assurance made to the past which organized labor in the United States would have in the successful execution of such a program. It is our opinion that the services of the representatives of organized labor and of management are essential to the success of this enterprise.

"It is our understanding that the participation of the United States government in a proposed Expanded Program of Technical Assistance under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council is being planned as part of the United States contribution to the worldwide program of development of underdeveloped areas envisaged by the resolution of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations which was held in St. Paul, Minn., in August 1948, and which was the first meeting of the executive council held in Miami, Fla., in March of this year. This principle has been accepted by the United States and has been incorporated in the corresponding bill now pending before Congress.

"The American Federation of Labor, therefore, feels that, for the sake of consistency, management's participation ought to be extended to the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance for Latin America, as well as to the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and its Technical Assistance Administration, and we, therefore, urge that the United States delegation take the initiative to amend the provision of the resolution accordingly."

Buy Gompers stamps!

PROTEST KILLING

Washington.—The AFL formally protested to the International Labor Organization at the March 23 assassination of Luis Negreiros, president of the Peruvian Confederation of Labor.

AFL International Representative Serafino F. Delaney telegraphed ILO Director General David Morse that the AFL "protested strongly and bitterly to the Peruvian government."

"Workers of American hemisphere demand speedy action to curtail such suppression of human rights and freedom of association," Mr. Delaney said. "The AFL suggests that this matter be called to the attention of the ILO Commission on Violation of Trade Union Rights."

PICK KEYNOTE SLOGAN

Washington.—The U. S. Treasury has picked "Good Citizenship" as the keynote for the May 15-July 4 Independence Drive sale of U. S. Savings Bonds.

60 Stove Prizes For Union Show

Philadelphia.—Sixty gas stoves and heaters will be given away by manufacturers at the AFL Union Industries Show here May 6-13.

These are only a few of the free prizes and big cash payments in the big crowds expected to witness the exhibition.

"Come to Philadelphia May 6 through 13," said Director Woll, "and there you will witness magicians—members of AFL unions and union firms—transform the famous old Convention Hall into a brilliant palace filled with elaborate displays of union wares—products made by the almost miraculous hands of skilled union labor in the friendly spirit of industrial management. Also, you will see serious effort by the many members of AFL service unions.

"There will be lives' exhibits in which union workers actually make the highest grade products in all the world," Mr. Woll said, "and over a thousand firms and industries will be directly and indirectly associated in the greatest labor-management enterprise of all times."

At the outset of the AFL Stove Mounters International Union, the exhibitors will exhibit 50 stoves, 10 electric ranges on the floor of the 1950 Union Industries Show. The stoves in this display are manufacturers' products and are not prizes.

The inside partition of one stove is well painted. The fact that the fascia can be baked at one end of the range while the other is being framed is another one.

These union-made stoves are only a few of the numerous exciting things which spectators will see at the May 6-13 Convention Hall in Philadelphia.

AFL Charges NEA Scares Teachers

Washington.—President John M. Ekland of the AFL American Federation of Labor, alleging that the National Education Association of lobbying against Federal aid, urged the Union's teachers in connection with scare propaganda against legislation pending before the Senate.

In a letter to the Congressional Lobby Investigating Committee, Mr. Ekland charged that the NEA is urging teachers throughout the country to exert pressure upon their legislators to oppose the proposed social security bill after frightening the teachers with misleading information on how the legislation will affect them.

The pending bill provides that teachers pension and other state pension systems can be included in the coverage of the social security law if two-thirds of the teachers affected vote in favor of having the state negotiate a compact with the federal government to that end.

"The National Education Association has sent out representatives to incite classroom teachers against this fair proposition," Mr. Ekland wrote in part:

"The truth is that more than half the teachers in the country would improve their lot even under the present social security law. But under the proposed legislation teachers' pension systems could be created in where such exist and at the same time extend to the aged and disabled under the proposed legislation teachers who are not now covered by pension systems.

"The educational bulletin boards throughout the country notices have been filled with misinformation. Union officials directing teachers to flood Congress with letters of protest. In very few of these were teachers even informed as to what legislation was actually proposed. Teachers have been misled and misinformed."

Mr. Ekland urged that, in the future, the Union's teachers be given the facts so that they can form an intelligent opinion on legislation.

Bradley Chosen For ILO Group

H. A. BRADLEY
President Electrical Workers

Akron, Ohio—For the second time President H. A. Bradley of the AFL International Chemical Workers Union has been chosen to represent the workers in America's chemical industry on the Chemical Industries Committee of the International Labor Organization (ILO). The president of ICWU previously served the ILO at Paris in 1946.

Vice President Marshall Shafer of Los Angeles will complete the two-man, worker delegation to be sent from the United States. Organizer Gordon McIlwain of Seattle, Chairman of a number of ICWU, will represent Canadian chemical workers.

The conference is set for Apr. 11-22.

U. S. Labor Honors Oldenbroek

Washington.—All branches of organized labor in the United States joined with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations to honor J. H. Oldenbroek, secretary-general of the new anti-Communist International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, on his first official visit to this country. In the top photo, l. to r., are Allan S. Haywood, vice president of the CIO and personal representative of CIO President Philip Murray; AFL Vice President George M. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, and Mr. Oldenbroek, the guest of honor.

Second photo, l. to r., Fred H. Cooney, grand lodge representative of the International Association of Machinists, representing Machinists President A. J. Hayes; President H. W. Fraser of the International Brotherhood of Railway Conductors, and Bert M. Jewell, labor adviser in the Economic Cooperation Administration and former president of the AFL Railway Employes Department.

Third photo, l. to r., Cecil Harris, assistant editor the United Mine Workers Journal; W. A. Boyle of Montana and John J. Mates of Pennsylvania, members of the United Mine Workers executive board and representatives of Miners President John L. Lewis.

Bottom photo, l. to r., A. R. Lyon, executive secretary Railway Labor Executives Assn.; Joseph Phillip Mi Kaiser, and CIO General Counsel Arthur J. Goldberg.

Green Urges AFL Back Boys' Clubs

Washington.—AFL President William Green endorsed the program of the Boys' Clubs of America in a letter addressed to the members of the AFL throughout the nation.

Mr. Green draws attention to a special pamphlet designed to inform AFL members of the Boys' Clubs of America and circulated to the union members by their boys in part:

"I attach for your careful consideration a folder describing a program of Boys' Clubs of America. At present the American Federation of Labor heartily endorses the splendid activities and plans of the Boys' Clubs of America to encourage and aid in the full participation of the AFL members throughout the United States.

"Boys' Clubs provide constructive activities in health and physical training, as well as vocational skills. They are nonsectarian in nature and serve boys of all races, colors and religious creeds.

"By our participation as good citizens in voluntary services to instruct and guide these boys when called upon, we can exemplify the ideals of good trade unionism as pertaining to the developing of a stronger and better America."

The pamphlet, "Building Citizens of Tomorrow," explains the aims and objects of the Boys' Clubs and informs AFL members as to how they may help the existing boys' clubs or assist in the establishment of additional Boys' Clubs in their locality. AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, member of the Boys' Clubs of America Board of Clubs of America. Mr. Woll says:

"Increasingly, labor unions are taking an interest in boys' clubs. This interest has found expression in the form of sponsorship of specific activities by organized labor, such as the development of public interest in boys' club work.

"There is good reason for their special interest in boys' clubs because the benefits of boys' clubs are available to the sons of workers at a cost they can afford and many graduates of boys' clubs are members of AFL unions."

In reporting the launching of this cooperative project David W. Armstrong, national director, said that there are more than 200,000 boy members of the 325 boys' clubs which are members of the organization across the country. He said:

"Boys' Clubs of America welcome the interest and support of the American Federation of Labor in behalf of the thousands of boys throughout the country who now enjoy opportunities for recreation and guidance in boys' clubs; also its assistance in establishing similar benefits to other thousands now unserved."

"In many communities the interest and assistance of local unions affiliated with the AFL has been of great value to boys' clubs. This national endorsement should, however, stimulate a broader interest not only in existing boy's clubs but also in community movements for establishing boys' clubs in communities where they do not now exist."

Remember Gompers. Buy stamps!

GETREAU NAMED AT ATLANTA

Atlanta, Ga.—The successor to Paul E. Styles, tenth regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, has been named. John C. Getreau, regional director in Columbus, Ohio, Federation of Labor, and former executive secretary-director of the National Labor Relations Board at Memphis, Tenn., it has been appointed. Mr. Styles has been a member of the staff of the NLRB in Washington.

Propose Gompers For Hall of Fame Honor at NYU

New York.—The Electrical Union World, publication of Local 3 AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, has submitted the name of the revered founder of the American Federation of Labor, Samuel Gompers, for induction in the Hall of Fame.

It is in the Hall of Fame of New York University where reposa busts of famous Americans; all walks of life.

This year, the AFL and its constituent units are celebrating the centenary of Mr. Gompers' birth, January 27, 1850.

Gompers' name was submitted by Arnold Bernhard, editor of the Electrical Union World, for election to the Hall of Fame by reason of the first president of the AFL "by his vision and his devotion to the simple tenets of freedom helped make possible the existence of a free labor movement in the United States."

"Today, in a world ringed by an encroaching totalitarianism, the free labor movement stands the world, solidly with American labor, which Mr. Gompers helped more than 70 years, stand as the first line of resistance," the letter of nomination said.

"It is particularly fitting that the name of Samuel Gompers be considered for the Hall of Fame this year, the centenary of his birth, an occasion which has evoked tributes to his memory and to the value of his constructions to the cause of democracy."

The Hall of Fame was established to honor the men who have been responsible for the growth of this country. In the top photo, l. to r., are Allan S. Haywood, vice president of the CIO and personal representative of CIO President Philip Murray; AFL Vice President George M. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, and Mr. Oldenbroek, the guest of honor.

Local Committees Find Many Jobs

Washington.—Local Full Employment Committees, advocated by the AFL to combat unemployment, have already found thousands of jobs.

The AFL Labor Bulletin has been surveying the accomplishments of these committees, urged to help create 2,000,000 jobs now to prevent a further downward spiral of unemployment. You may find some ideas for your own community in this list:

In a north central town, three new plants will soon begin operations. Committee members interested two firms in a nearby city in buying the idle defense plants which will manufacture products needed by industry. Another firm will operate a chemical plant employing 100. Those 500 new jobs will create employment for about one-fifth of the town's unemployed—a good beginning.

In a south central city, local men have discovered a way to process shale from which to recover valuable oil. Committee members have staked out a block which they call "shalille"; a plant is being set up to manufacture the product.

In an eastern town, committee members approached a rubber company which has been operating on a three day week. They found a shoe factory seeking space for expansion, willing to invest another $1,000,000 in the plant. Local merchants, realtors, suppliers and other citizen groups made new efforts. Increased the fund to $100,000, built two additional factory buildings, and the shoe firm went into operation, employing 400 and pouring a payroll of $1,000,000 per year into the community.

In a northern area where unemployment has been severe, 10 small plants have been started with the help of local committees. They have hired a salesman who is now on the road getting new customers and has established a sales office in the plants central city to keep down expense alone.

In another city, a man ready to open a small business needed $10,000 capital, but was turned down by the local bank; the Full Employment Committee found the money from local sources. Some of the men were willing to invest in a sound business proposition which would create employment for them and for others.

A committee in another area got a basket factory started, using local wood and local labor to make baskets for local use. Money was cheaply than they could be bought elsewhere.

In an eastern town, a committee of the local Carpenters Union is a leader on the Full Employment Committee. The town needed housing for low income families; many local workers joined the Carpenters AFL *member got necessary information about applying for loans under the Housing Act of 1949, then with the help of committee members went in person to the agencies involved in clearing the loan, followed it step by step and got it approved. Now a total of $1,500,000 in loans for local use will soon be busy constructing a new low-cost housing project. He did not stop there. He and his fellow committee members started other projects in low-rent housing and slum clearance. For lack of funds for completion of a large project which will cost $2,000,000 to finish, the committee is now working to get the money.*

Other committees have been successful in getting state and local projects started which will put highway construction men to work, in getting the building of schools and hospitals, increasing the teaching staff in public schools, improving post office and other public service to provide needed workers.

In a western state, the state committee has held "economic clinics" in a number of local areas, stimulating local initiative. Local committees representing labor and other groups have been set up. A few of the resulting achievements in various areas are: A $250,000 housing project is in progress in one town. An intercity air line is being started and a new airport built. A new weekly Journal is being published in Greenville county. A prohibitive $250 state trucking fee has been reduced this fee kept trucks from nearby states from coming in to transport produce of local fruit growers; the resulting increase in trucking has already increased business, benefiting many towns. All these projects are creating jobs.

Samuel Gompers Dies in 1924

Washington.—All branches of organized labor in the United States joined with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations to honor J. H. Oldenbroek, secretary-general of the new anti-Communist International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, on his first official visit to this country. In the top photo, l. to r., are Allan S. Haywood, vice president of the CIO and personal representative of CIO President Philip Murray; AFL Vice President George M. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, and Mr. Oldenbroek, the guest of honor.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1950 GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Samuel Gompers said:

"Slavery is done under the guise of philanthropy or social morality which in any way lessens initiative is the greatest crime that can be committed against the toilers.

Brown Urges U. S. Give More Power To German Unions

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for AFL News Service

New York.—Irving Brown, the AFL's roving representative, warned in a radio broadcast that the democratic European labor movements are under "quasi-military attack by the Russians."

He disclosed that the Communists in France and in Italy "have officially received orders from Moscow and the Cominform to do everything in their power to sabotage the unloading of arms" from America.

"This is an all-out effort on the part of the Russians to destroy any possibility of military and economic security in western Europe," he said in an interview over WFDR, outlet of the AFL International Labor Movement Workers Union.

Replying to questions by A. H. Raskin, labor reporter of the New York Times, Brown said that the workers belonging to the free labor movements of Italy and France "are now performing heroic work which invites great risks" in unloading arms under the North Atlantic Pact.

Brown strongly criticized American policy and practices in western Germany "at their inability to understand that in western Germany, today, you cannot counter the Russian menace by talking of talks about the American way of life or about free enterprise." After the war the AFL has been trying "to impress upon the American people that unless there is a new form of ownership which denies ownership to the old Nazis and nationalists and new nationalists, unless you deny them power to them, you will drive Germany surely into the hands of the Russians."

The AFL spokesman singled out for specific criticism John J. McCloy, high commissioner for the American Zone in Germany, because "he does not understand that the labor movement in Germany it is not merely a question of collective bargaining and wages, but it is a question of giving economic power to the trade unions as the only barrier to the return of German nationalism which, surely, is only a danger to the extent to which it can be exploited by Soviet menace and Soviet drive."

He warned:

"Unless America, which has the power, which is the decisive power in Europe and the world today, unless America sees this, that I am not very optimistic about the future of Germany, and, therefore, the future of Europe."

Germany's Eastern Zone, under Russian controls, has an outstanding underground apparatus, Brown revealed, which includes secret broadcasts, dissemination of the "tremendous amount" of printed literature. He said:

"It's absolutely amazing how, in spite of all the terror, in spite of all the tremendous totalitarian organization, the authorities have been able to keep down open discontent. The people of Berlin, especially, have shown tremendous courage in fighting for democracy, and I am beginning to appreciate it. I would not say the same for the AFL workers but the people in Berlin who have been up against the Russians know what freedom is."

"It's very important for the American people to understand that you must give these people hope, you must rope the impression, the feeling that they are not being left alone. You must exploit these cracks, this discontent that you have in eastern Europe so that these people will feel that in spite of all the dictatorship and totalitarianism, they are not alone and that the people in the western world haven't forgotten them."

AFL Pushes $5,400 As Security Base

Washington.—Nelsen H. Cruikshank, director of AFL social insurance activities, gave assurance to the AFL campaign for a base of $5,400 a year on which to measure social security contributions.

Speaking on the Labor Bread-casting Company's "American Unity" program, Mr. Cruikshank said that the bill expanding social security coverage and benefits pending in the Senate retains a wage base ($300 a month) low low in view of prevailing wages. The AFL has asked the Senate to raise the base from $3,600 to $4,800 per month, or $5,400 a year. Present base is $3,000 a year.

Mr. Cruikshank pointed out that a man with a steady monthly income under the pending bill (already passed by the House) would get only $77 per month pension.

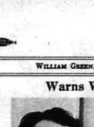
"But under the AFL proposal," Mr. Cruikshank said, "he would get 25 percent of his wage base which would be $132 a month. The raising of the base would help much more than pay for itself.

"We are no longer thinking of social security as just a minimum floor above which private pensions and other collective bargaining, or otherwise, additional amounts in annuities and other things. We are thinking of it as the main reliance for retirement."

Mr. Cruikshank said many of the recently-negotiated industrial pensions fall short of the needs of the individuals and the nation.

The AFL endorses expansion of social security to cover farmers, self-employed and others not now protected; a high wage base; higher benefits; contributions running up eventually to 3½ percent on worker and employer.

Warns We're Losing Germany



New York.—Irving Brown (left) AFL representative in Europe, told New York Congressman J. H. Rankin in WFDR radio interview that America may lose all its efforts in behalf of a democratic free Germany unless more intelligent leadership is given immediately. The broadcast was also carried by Chattanooga, Tenn., and Los Angeles stations of AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

Meany to Present Award to Lehman

(Special Correspondence)

New York.—Forty-five years ago, an organization which called itself the League for Industrial Democracy was formed by a group of liberals who dedicated themselves to the task of promoting a sympathetic understanding of the labor movement as well as to the urgent understanding of the problems of democratic movements.

From that day on, the L. I. D. has been composed of trained, active liberals and trade unionists who have constantly stood staunch against Red Nazis and nationalists and new nationalists, unless you deny them power to them, you will drive Germany surely into the hands of the Russians.

The AFL spokesman singled out for specific criticism John J. McCloy, high commissioner for the American Zone in Germany, because "he does not understand that the labor movement in Germany it is not merely a question of collective bargaining and wages, but it is a question of giving economic power to the trade unions as the only barrier to the return of German nationalism which, surely, is only a danger to the extent to which it can be exploited by Soviet menace and Soviet drive."

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LAMBAST TAFT

Canton, Ohio.—A double-barrelled blast at the record and double-dealing of Sen. Robert A. Taft was delivered by Harry Bates, president of the organized labor at the 20th annual state convention of the AFL's carpenters and joiners of America. Michael J. Kaydon, president, and Phil Hand, secretary-treasurer of the Ohio Federation of Labor made addresses as they continued their northern Ohio and Pat Harry W. Laidler, L.I.D. Executive director, on "Freedom and the Welfare State."

At last year's anniversary luncheon, the annual citation was presented to ILGWU President David Dubinsky by President William Green. The 40th anniversary luncheon has among its sponsors President Green, Mr. Dubinsky, Hugo Ernst, Patrick E. Gorman, Willard S. Townsend, Max Zaritsky, Luigi Antonini, William Collins, John J. Connell, Julius Hochman, Rebecca Simonson, Louis Stulberg, Fred Umbgy, Charles S. Zimmerman and others.

Honorary president of the League, which has always opposed totalitarianism in every form, is John Dewey, the country's outstanding philosopher and educator.

CO-OP PAYS OFF

(Cooperative News Service)

Duluth, Minn.—"Senators and Congressmen who voted against the co-op housing measure should come here and see what government-financed cooperative housing does for the people," says L. O. Selbak, manager of the Duluth Homestead Association.

Mr. Selbak revealed that the Stone Homestead project, located on hillsops near Duluth, had paid the last installment of its 40-year government obligation last January, in one-quarter of the required time. The $225,000 mortgage at 2 percent interest had been made in 1930, in a sales agreement between the government and the cooperative association, formed by the homesteaders. The project is a depression-built government undertaking sold by the government to the residents.

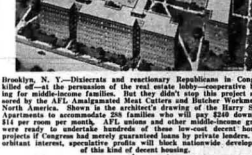
Failure of Congress to pass the co-op measure throws cold water on the hopes of these folks and members of two other Duluth groups that want to start co-op housing.

Front Line Workers for New Members

Washington.—AFL organizers are in the front line in the Samuel Gompers Memorial Organizing Campaign to gain 1,000,000 new AFL members by 1956. Here are some of them at the recent organizers' conference. In the top photo, l. to r., Charles Heymanns, Wisconsin; John Schreiber, Buffalo, N. Y.; E. H. Williams, Louisiana; Harry O'Reilly, AFL director of organizing; Robert L. Seale, New Orleans, La.; James A. Harper, Indiana, and Fred Friedrick, Wisconsin; Leon J. DeBroux, Wisconsin, and Maurice E. Weinberg, Wisconsin.

In bottom photo are Ohio state organizers (seated, l. to r.) Russell L. Kershner, Frank R. Smith, R. P. Grace, Charles A. Coakwell, James P. McWeeny, A. C. Shibley and John Marinchek; standing, l. to r., William F. Sturm, Jesse Gallagher, J. M. Gavlak, J. W. Kneidl, E. C. Busby, William H. Reed, Ted Dethloff, Fred Whiteman and Carl A. Hubbell.

Congress No Stop This Co-Op Housing



Brooklyn, N. Y.—Dixiecrats and reactionary Republicans in Congress killed off—at the persuasion of the real estate lobby—cooperative housing for middle-income families. But they didn't stop this project sponsored by the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America. Shown is the architect's drawing of the Harry Silver Apartments to accommodate 288 families who will pay $240 down and $14 per room per month. The AFL unions and other middle-income groups were ready to undertake hundreds of these low-cost decent housing projects even if Congress had merely guaranteed loans by private lenders. Exorbitant interest, speculative profits will block nationwide development of this kind of decent housing.

AFL Union Co-Op Housing to Rent At $14 Per Room

Brooklyn, N. Y.—The AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America is sponsoring a low-rental cooperative housing development in which 228 families will find relief from the discomfort of the housing problem's two extremes: apartment shortages and exorbitant rentals.

Headed by Joseph Belsky, international vice president and secretary of the Meat Cutters Union, the first 224 the project will represent the best apartment money and taste can build.

Preference will be given to veterans and union members, in that order, and the remainder will be open to the general public.

Three 6-story elevator buildings to be erected on a site of 121,000 square feet of land in an attractive section of Brooklyn accessible to the city.

The site is bounded by Schenectady Avenue, Midwood Street and Ralph Road. The apartment houses will occupy only 30 percent of the land with the remaining grounds dedicated to landscaped gardens and walks with enclosed playgrounds for the safety of the children.

The Harry Silver Apartments are named in honor of Harry Silver, a union member who sacrificed his life in the nation's struggle in the service symbolizes the highest and truest form of the spirit of unionism.

No profit in the operation of this development will accrue to the union or any firm, person or association. The savings all along the line are passed on to the tenants and will be reflected in the low monthly carrying charges.

Similar accommodations, privately financed, would cost far more than the above the prices to be paid by the "cooperators." Minimal ownership is achieved with a down payment of $240 and the monthly carrying charges of approximately $14 a room which includes heat, repairs, amortization, interest and maintenance.

Should a "cooperator" wish to surrender his apartment, he will be required to give the housing company prior opportunity to repurchase his interest. This is to prevent the speculative dealings in stock and the incentive for non-tenants to purchase the stock. That the development is feasible at these low attractive costs is attributable to these facts:

1. A partial tax exemption to be granted by the city through Mayor William O'Dwyer and City Construction Coordinator Robert Moses.

2. Construction practices costs and management will be under the careful supervision of the Banking of the State Division of Housing under Commissioner Herman T. Schnitzer.

3. Federal Housing Administration will approve the application for mortgage insurance.

4. Financing is conditioned upon a first mortgage to be procured from the Lincoln Savings Bank of Brooklyn which will bear interest at 3¼ percent for a period of 40 years.

5. The Harry Silver Apartments will be owned and operated by the occupants—there will be no profits for outside interests, and any surplus will be passed on to the tenant-owners in the form of lower future maintenance charges.

Railway Clerks Show Model Town

Philadelphia.—Visitors to the AFL Union Industries Show May 6-13 in Philadelphia will see this elaborate miniature railroad town operating in perfectly scaled miniature when the AFL Brotherhood of Railway Clerks opens the control circuit of this display. The display demonstrates on the grounds of the show the biggest railroad brotherhood exhibit ever assembled, a 300,000 members, and required over 5,000 construction hours to perfect every detail from passenger trains to miles of scale track.

Bakers Give Cakes At AFL Union Show

Philadelphia.—At the 5th AFL Union Industries Show, May 6-13, Philadelphia will see this elaborate display at every show to see skilled bakers operate automatic machinery to decorated cakes. Every hour a bakery truck will deliver fresh cakes, bunks of the biggest loaf of bread ever baked is handed out to the visitors.

CO-OP EXHIBITS

Philadelphia.—The Cooperative League of the United States of America has made arrangements for booth space to display coop products at the 5th AFL Union Industries Show May 6-13.

Trade unionists have always taken an active interest in cooperative enterprises. Many Philadelphians are members of consumer cooperatives. They will welcome the Cooperative League to Philadelphia.

Remember Gompers. Buy stamps!

D. C. Takes Lead In Child Program

Washington.—The AFL Central Labor Union led civic organizations in the nation's capital in the conception and organization of a 2-day conference on "The Child: His Needs and How They Are Met in Washington."

This was the first city-wide meeting of its kind to be convened to promote grass roots interest in the March of Dimes White House Conference on Children and Youth to be held later this year.

The first White House conference was assembled by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1909. The last such conference has been held each 10 years. The 1950 conference will be unique because it will climax a year's home town conferences in every part of the country.

The Washington the initiative was taken by the Central Labor Union on motion of Miss Selma Borchardt, delegate of the American Federation of Teachers.

The Trades Unionist," weekly organ of the Central Labor Union, said editorially:

"It marks another constructive act in the long series of activities in behalf of children inherent in labor's traditions and practices. In the District of Columbia its roots reach back more than a century—to the local election in which organized labor nominated Mayor Seaton on his pledge form to develop the Washington public schools system—and to which welfare has continued without interruption.

"Much of the credit for that latest effort, the recent conference at American University, must be given to Delegate Selma Borchardt, national and local leader of union teachers, who has long devoted her efforts and energies through the labor movement toward the welfare of children in Washington. Her success for the organization and conduct of the meeting to further the White House Conference Program has already led to plans for similar conferences elsewhere."

Plan Organizing Of Public Workers

Washington.—The AFL American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers has invited Harry O'Reilly, AFL director of organizing, to its annual convention on Omaha, Neb., April 24, to discuss organizing public workers.

Mr. O'Reilly will address the convention and discuss details for an intensive organizing drive with union officials.

The organizing director is scheduled also to confer with the AFL Sugar Workers Council in Denver, Colo., on April 25.

Illinois Jobless Get $25 a Week

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—While unemployment is rising and unemployment compensation benefits are increasing in Illinois the cost to employers who contribute to the unemployment compensation fund is going down instead of up.

The paradox is only temporary however.

What is happening is that both employers and jobless workers are reaping the benefit of an unemployment compensation law that is built during the post-war high industrial employment.

Under a new amendment to the Unemployment Compensation Act, the maximum benefit for workers laid off a jobless worker in Illinois went up April 1 from $20 to $25 a week.

Because contribution rates are geared to benefits paid out, the outgo from the unemployment compensation fund is increasing from about $70,000,000 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949, according to Frank Annunsio, state labor director.

The law fixes the maximum safety level of the unemployment trust fund at $435,000,000. When reserves exceed that amount, employers are given reductions in their contribution rates, if they qualify for it by their contributions over a 5-year period.

Since 1946, the fund has been well over $435,000,000. On June 30, 1949 the reserve stood at $441,000,000 and it stood at $501,000,000. As of January 31, 1950, it was $487,000,000. If it goes below $435,000,000 by next June 30, there won't be any further reduction in contribution rates. If it goes too low, there may be a raise.

AFL LEADER NAMED

San Francisco.—Edward J. Carrigan, past president of the San Mateo AFL Central Labor Council, has been nominated by President Truman for the post of U. S. marshal for the northern California district.

Milk Drivers Fund Becomes Effective

New York.—Fifteen thousand milk drivers and dairy employes in the New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore metropolitan area will receive protection under the first industry-wide welfare fund in the milk industry, effective April 1.

Terms of the welfare "package" were agreed upon by representatives of 210 milk distributors and 5 locals of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

David Kaplan, chief economist for the parent union, said he expected the new welfare plan to serve as a model for agreements in other parts of the country.

The employers put up 10 cents an hour. The employes themselves finance benefits for their employes.

Six cents an hour is being earmarked for pensions. The other 4 cents will provide $20 a week for a worker with a $2,400 group life insurance policy, $10 a week hospital insurance for himself, his wife and dependent children, and other covered employes in the two states will not have to pay the employe taxes established under their laws. The New Jersey tax amounts to three-fourths of 1 percent. The New York employe tax will become one-half of 1 percent on July 1.

Handbag Union's Better Service Wins CIO Workers

St. Louis.—Superior service rendered by the AFL International Handbag, Luggage, Belt and Novelty Workers Union won 400 members away from the CIO Fur and Leather Workers in shops here.

The victory, reported to AFL President William Green, was hailed by Harry O'Reilly, AFL director of organizing, as indicative of a trend.

"Luggage workers outside the American Federation of Labor are fast realizing that it is the AFL that is capable of meeting their objectives and desires by remaining in close organizing contact with them, and are seeking affiliation with our organization which will serve them better," Mr. O'Reilly said.

He said the AFL is working closely with the Handbag Workers Union in organizing luggage campaigns not only in St. Louis, but also in Chicago, Denver and Los Angeles. Mr. O'Reilly's office is cooperating with Jack Wennlinger, the union's international president.

The post servicing by the CIO union and the failure to win conditions comparable to standards obtained in AFL shops were principal factors for the shift to the AFL union, which is seeking to organize 1,500 luggage workers in the industry in St. Louis.

An important contributing factor was the successful fight by the AFL Leather Workers Locations to reinstate 11 women workers who had been fired by the National Labor Relations Board upheld charges of illegal discharge brought by the AFL union.

Charles Hoffman, international vice president of the Handbag Workers elected the St. Louis successes.

Truman Proposes Jobless Pay Rise To $42 Per Week

Washington.—President Truman urged Congress to forestall the unemployment insurance system, including state systems, from failing on about 3,500,000 employes of small companies, 1,700,000 Federal government employes, about 500,000 workers who are paid on a commission basis and about 200,000 workers on jobs of an irregular nature connected with agriculture.

He correct what he called the "inadequacy of benefits," Mr. Truman asked Congress to raise minimum levels for amounts and duration of benefits. Maximum weekly benefits in the states now range from $15 to $30 a week, with most states attempting to provide for dependents allowances. Payments are made for periods of dependents. The proportion of previous earnings replaced varies according to the number of dependents up to a maximum of 75 percent of wages, or $42, whichever is lower, for a person with three or more dependents.

Maximum duration of benefits varies among the states from 12 to 26 weeks. The average in 1949 was less than 16 weeks. Nearly 2,000,000 workers exhausted their rights to benefits in 1949, more than half of whom exhausted their benefits in the 16 weeks they were born only half as large as it was."

EXPAND PRICING

Washington.—The U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics is collecting retail prices for about 110 food items now absent from the consumer price index. Pricing of these foods is being conducted in 46 cities and will be done for about 18 months as part of a Congress-ordered revision of the C.P.I. The index is being revised so that it will better reflect exactly what consumers are buying today.

AFL WINS RENT BATTLE

San Diego.—The tenacious battle of the AFL in San Diego to prevent decontrol of rents has brought to a successful climax when the city council voted to keep rent controls in force.

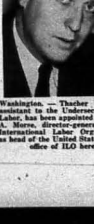
AFL Central Labor Council officials led the anti-decontrol struggle before the city council and carried on a campaign to petition for the benefit of the general public.

TOBIN PICKS ALL-STAR NINE

New York.—That avid sports fan, Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin, has joined 240 other "experts" in picking an all-time all-star baseball team for "Big Time Baseball," a new book by Harold H. Burr and Ralph Tolson.

Tobin picked Walter Johnson, P; Mickey Cochrane, c; George Sisler, 1b; Eddie Collins, 2b; Pie Traynor, 3b; Honus Wagner, ss; Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Ted Williams of.

U. S. ILO Head



Washington. — Thacher Winslow, assistant to the Undersecretary of Labor, has been appointed by David A. Morse, director-general of the International Labor Organization, as head of the United States branch office of ILO here.